



CHESHUNT

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT 1970

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1915

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

1970

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT

Public Health Committee, 1970/71

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Public Health Department Staff:

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John P. Smyth, L.L.M.R.C.P., L.L.M.R.C.S. (Irel)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Part-time):

Dorothy J. Anderson, M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., M.B., B.S.

Official Address: "The Cedars", 131, High Street, Cheshunt.

Telephone Number: Waltham Cross 25102.

Chief Public Health Inspector: Petroleum Inspector: Shops Act Inspector:

J. L. Billings, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

D. Coyne, M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspectors:

D. E. Fellows, M.A.P.H.I.

R. F. Cowlin, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Student Public Health Inspector:

G. W. Bailey

Administrative Assistant:

Mrs. P. I. Lizzimore (resigned 20.12.70)

Clerk

Mrs. J. L. Westney

Pests Officer/General Assistant:

K. H. Newman.

June, 1971.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In many ways, a severe medical condition is easier to manage than a mild one. A broken leg demands treatment. Yet the urgent need for treatment may obscure the fact that preventive measures are possible — even when cause and effect are closely linked.

A coronary thrombosis is thought to be associated with several causes; and patients tend to neglect the possibility of prevention even further. There is no clear-cut formula "Do this and avoid that, and all will be well".

My personal experience with patients who have had a coronary and survived leads me to think that many do alter their habits after the attack. The smokers often smoke less or stop, the fat men often lose weight and excessively active people tend to live at a more regular pace. Those who took no exercise are now taking regular walks. I often feel that an earlier alteration might have averted the attack.

During the last ten years, many doctors have come to the view that normal health in children is only present when the children are developing normally in all ways.

The County health staff and General Practitioners are making very considerable attempts to ensure that children are developing normally, and that those who need help are receiving it.

In the schools there is a considerable overlap of interest between the teachers and the school health service. I must be honest, and say that there are areas of ignorance in this field.

The links between cause and effect are very thin. Yet these do seem to be correlations between the development of children and the way they live at home. Common sense tells us that some people are better mixers than others. If a woman who is not a good mixer lives in a flat where there is no garden gate, or no other neutral ground where she may chat with her neighbour; she may well become a recluse. Does this matter? One cannot answer a certain "Yes" or "No". Yet if she has young children, they may be cut off from their fellows and become poor mixers themselves, or late in speaking and reading. One does not expect a densely populated area in a developed country in 1971 to suffer the fierce epidemics that occurred in the last century. The results, in terms of health and well-being are more subtle and may be longer lasting.

The area of Cheshunt is 8,480 acres. This includes water, roads, farm land, schools and playgrounds, parks, and buildings that are not used as dwellings.

In 1950, the planners considered the ultimate population of Cheshunt was 27,000. This figure was reached in six years. A 1959 plan estimated the population of Cheshunt in 1973 should be 39,000. This figure was exceeded in 1964. The present population is approximately 44,000 and likely to increase to 60,000 by 1975 in view of the development at Turnford and the G.L.C. development plan. In addition, the population of neighbouring authorities is also increasing.

Surely there must be a policy that says "Enough is enough", and no further development takes place except to replace existing buildings. It is easy to understand that a growing population has certain physical and educational needs, together with major social and recreational needs. The less identifiable matters such as privacy, quiet, and the opportunity to chat are all part of the quality of life.

With respect to total numbers of births and deaths, no specific comments are required; except that the crude birth rate is above the national average and the crude death rate is below. Infant mortality is well below the national average.

Cancer of the lung has caused 17 deaths — about 9% of all male deaths. This is in line with the national figure. 11 of these were under 65 years of age. The disease is linked with cigarette smoking. If a man smokes 20 a day, he increases his risk by about 7 times. If he smokes 40 a day, he increases his risk to about 17 times that of an infrequent smoker. Stopping smoking reduces the risk. After 8 years, an ex-smoker has the same chance of developing a cancer of the lung as a non-smoker.

The whole of the work of 1970 was, of course, carried out under the direction of my predecessor, Dr. J. P. Smyth, who resigned on the 31st March, 1971.

I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operation I have received from Members and Officers of the Council since my appointment and the support of the Public Health Department.

JOHN EARLE,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION 'I

STATISTICS

AREA: The area of Cheshunt is 8,480 acres.

POPULATION: Registrar-General's Estimate:

1959	—	31,110	1963	—	37,530	1967	—	42,900
1960	—	32,790	1964	—	39,040	1968	—	43,780
1961	—	35,490	1965	—	40,380	1969	—	43,890
1962	—	36,630	1966	—	41,990	1970	—	44,100
						1970		1971
Total hereditaments as per								
Valuation List (1st April)						17,398		17,634
Number of domestic hereditaments						13,917		14,105
Rateable Value						£2,295,916		£2,348,012
Estimated product of penny rate						£9,320		£22,878

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

					Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	...	370	380	750
	—Illegitimate	...	...	...	23	12	35
	Total				393	392	785
Still Births—Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
	—Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year:							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks:							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 week:							
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deaths of all ages	...	...	...	...	184	134	318

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole, the crude birth and death rates for the area should be multiplied by the area comparability factor supplied for the purpose by the General Register Office. When local crude birth and death rates have been so adjusted they are comparable with the crude rate for England

and Wales and with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area for that year.

The adjusted rates for Cheshunt, together with the crude rates for England and Wales for comparison, are as follows :—

Birth Rates

	Cheshunt				England & Wales
	<i>No. of Births</i>	<i>Crude Birth Rate</i>	<i>Comparability Factor</i>	<i>Adjusted Rate</i>	
1965	851	21.07	0.84	17.70	18.1
1966	831	19.79	0.84	16.62	17.7
1967	790	18.4	0.84	15.5	17.2
1968	793	18.1	0.84	15.2	16.9
1969	759	17.3	0.84	14.5	16.3
1970	785	17.8	0.84	15.0	16.0

Death Rates

	Cheshunt				England & Wales
	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Crude Death Rate</i>	<i>Comparability Factor</i>	<i>Adjusted Rate</i>	
1965	292	7.23	1.53	11.06	11.5
1966	255	6.07	1.52	9.23	11.7
1967	272	6.3	1.62	10.2	11.2
1968	293	6.7	1.63	10.9	11.9
1969	272	6.2	1.62	10.0	11.9
1970	318	7.2	1.62	11.7	11.7

	Cheshunt						England & Wales
Live Birth Rate (crude)	17.80		16.00
Area Comparability Factor	0.84		1.00
Standardised Birth Rate	15.00		16.00
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	0.93		1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	4.00		8.00
Still Birth Rate							
per 1,000 total live and still births	11.00		13.00
Infant Mortality Rate							
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live birth	11.00		18.00

Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	12.00	17.00
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	26.00
Neo-natal Mortality Rate		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births ...	10.00	12.00
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births ...	9.00	11.00
Perinatal Mortality Rate		
Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	20.00	23.00
Death Rate (crude)		
per 1,000 of home population	7.20	11.70
Area Comparability Factor	1.62	1.00
Standardised Death Rate	11.70	11.70

INFANT MORTALITY:

All infants per 1,000 live births.

	Cheshunt No. of Deaths	Rate	England & Wales Rate
1961	18	23.02	21.6
1962	23	29.56	21.6
1963	14	17.48	21.1
1964	7	8.36	20.0
1965	10	11.75	19.0
1966	17	20.46	19.0
1967	8	10.1	18.3
1968	13	16.0	18.0
1969	10	13.0	18.0
1970	9	11.0	18.0

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1970:

	Male	Female	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	10	3	13

Contd.....

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	5	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	15	2	17
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	9	9
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	—	1
Leukaemia	2	1	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms	14	10	24
Diabetes Mellitus	4	1	5
Other Endocrine Diseases	1	1	2
Mental Disorders	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	—	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	—	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	3	3	6
Ischaemic Heart Disease	64	22	86
Other forms of Heart Disease	3	5	8
Cerebrovascular Disease	12	23	35
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	8	7	15
Influenza	—	2	2
Pneumonia	4	7	11
Bronchitis and Emphysema	15	12	27
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	4	5
Peptic Ulcer	1	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	2	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	2	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—	2
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1	—	1
Congenital Anomalies	2	2	4
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	4	1	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
All Other Accidents	4	1	5
All Other External Causes	2	1	3
Total All Causes	184	134	318

The estimate of the population of 44,100 is calculated by the Registrar General. He considers the population has increased by 210. I consider the increase in 1969 of 110 to be slightly too low, and I do

so again this year. In 1961, the last full census year, there were 3.4 persons per dwelling. This figure has very likely now reduced to 3.2, thus my estimated population as at 1st April, 1971, would be 45,136 or at 3.4 persons per dwelling 47,957. We shall have to wait, however, until the recent census figures are published for a true total.

There were 785 live births and 318 deaths, so there was a natural increase of 467. There were 35 illegitimate births (4% of total births), the national percentage is 8.

There was no maternal death during the year.

Diseases of the heart and blood vessels accounted for 150 deaths whilst cancer in all forms was responsible for 82 deaths.

SECTION II

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

AMBULANCE	Fire and Ambulance Station, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 23281). Two ambulances, two sitting-case cars.
ANTE-NATAL	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 38652). Mondays 1.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 28232). Tuesday evening. Relaxation and Mothercraft Class by appointment. Tuesday 2.00 p.m. — 4.00 p.m.
CHILD WELFARE	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 23401). Wednesdays 10.00 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 28232). Mondays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Thursdays 10.00 a.m. to noon. Thursdays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Dig Dag Hill Hall, Cheshunt. Tuesdays 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Memorial Hall, Goffs Oak. Fridays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
CHIROPODY	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 23401). Tuesdays p.m.) Fridays a.m.) by appointment.
DAY NURSERY	The Chestnuts, Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 24878).
DENTAL	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 24332). Monday all day. Tuesday all day. Thursday mornings (alternate) Wednesday all day. Friday a.m. weekly — Orthodontist. Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 21844). Wednesdays a.m. Thursdays a.m. Fridays p.m. — Orthodontist.
DISTRICT NURSE / MIDWIVES	7, Bell Lane, Broxbourne. (Hoddesdon 66587).

DISTRICT NURSE / MIDWIVES (Contd.)	<p>185, Ashdown Crescent, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 27636).</p> <p>32, Darcy Close, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 2930).</p> <p>27, Ousden Drive, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 23745).</p> <p>1, Prescott Road, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 22344).</p> <p>24, Rowlands Close, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 29032).</p> <p>71, Park Lane, Flamstead End. (Waltham Cross 26586).</p> <p>178B, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 27750).</p>
DISTRICT NURSES	<p>65, Broadlands Avenue, Enfield. (01 804 3311).</p> <p>27, Cunningham Avenue, Enfield. (Waltham Cross 25525).</p> <p>87, Cuffley Hill, Goff's Oak. (Cuffley 2420).</p> <p>106, Trinity Lane, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 24830).</p>
FAMILY PLANNING	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. Mondays and Thursdays 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Tuesdays 9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.
HEALTH VISITORS	Can be contacted at the addresses shown under 'Child Welfare'.
HOME HELP SERVICE	Local Organiser: Mrs. M. L. K. Frost, Chestnuts Day Nursery, Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 24658). Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m., and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Wednesday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Friday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
MEDICAL LOAN EQUIPMENT	178A, High Street, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 38652). Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
OPHTHALMIC	Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. Friday mornings (by appointment).
SOCIAL WELFARE	Social Work Unit, Westfield, West Street, Hertford. (Hertford 3145 and 5875). Sub-office: Chestnuts Day Nursery, Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt. (Wal- tham Cross 20905).
SPEECH THERAPY	Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. Thursdays a.m.

SPEECH THERAPY (Contd...) Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. Wednesdays.

WELFARE FOODS Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. Wednesdays 10.00 a.m. to noon and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. Mondays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m., Thursdays 10.00 a.m. to noon and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Goff's Oak, Fridays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

WELL-WOMAN CLINIC (Cytology) Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. 2nd and 4th Mondays a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays p.m.

SOCIAL SERVICES

With the coming into force of the Local Authority Social Services Act on 1st April, 1971, statutory responsibility for providing services and social work help to the physically handicapped, the elderly, the mentally handicapped and the mentally ill, as well as the responsibility for the child care and family case work service, passed to the newly formed Social Services Department.

The Divisional Social Services Officer is :—

Miss M. Copleston, 1, Queens Road, Hertford. Tel: Hertford 2294.

It is hoped that in the course of the current year, generic Social Work teams will be established in each of the main centres of population in the Division, but at the present time the various aspects of the service are being dealt with as follows :—

CHILD CARE AND FAMILY PROBLEMS INCLUDING HOME-LESSNESS Social Services Office, 1, Queens Road, Hertford. Tel: Hertford 2294.

PHYSICALLY HAN- DICAPPED, BLIND, INCLUDING ADVICE ON ADAP- TATIONS AND AIDS Social Services Office, Westfield, West Street, Hertford. Tel: Hertford 7041.

MENTALLY ILL, MENTALLY HAN- DICAPPED, ELDERLY, ETC.	Hertford Borough	) Social Services Office,
	Hertford R.D.C.	) Westfield,
	Hoddesdon U.D.C.	) West Street,
	Ware R.D.C.	) Hertford,
	Ware U.D.C.	) Tel: Hertford 7041.
	Bishop's Stortford U.D.C.	) Social Services Office,
	Braughing R.D.C.	) Health Centre, Bishop's
	Sawbridgeworth U.D.C.	) Stortford.
		Tel: Bishop's Stortford 2743.

Contd...

Cheshunt U.D.C.) Social Services Office,
) Chestnuts Day Centre, Cheshunt.
) Tel: Waltham Cross 20905 and 27330.

All emergency calls concerning the elderly and mentally ill should be directed to the Social Services Office, Westfield, West Street, Hertford, where they will be dealt with by the Social Worker on duty for the day, irrespective of area.

OTHER SERVICES

BLOOD TRANSFUSION :

Sessions are held at the Health Centre, Waltham Cross, at regular intervals. Further information may be obtained from Miss E. R. Cooper, Honorary Local Organiser, National Blood Transfusion Service, 41, Southfield Road, Waltham Cross. Telephone No. Waltham Cross 26258.

BRITISH RED CROSS :

The Society has a range of medical equipment for the sick and injured available on loan on the recommendation of Medical Practitioners and District Nurses. The equipment is at 178A, High Street, Waltham Cross. The depot is open from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. daily.

In addition to their normal activities, which include the provision of First Aid Posts at local events, the detachment has available a team which is on call for disaster relief work. Non-members of the Society are welcome for First Aid Training. Details may be obtained from the Commandant, Miss E. R. Cooper, 41, Southfield Road, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 26258).

There is a flourishing unit of Cadets, who meet every Thursday at 6.45 p.m.

LABORATORY FACILITIES :

A hospital laboratory service is available at Chase Farm Hospital.

Water, milk and food specimens are sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale, or to the Regional Public Health Laboratory, Luton. Some food specimens are also sent to the Public Analyst, Analytical Laboratory, Eastcheap, London.

W.R.V.S. MEALS SERVICE :

The W.R.V.S. continue to operate the Meals on Wheels Service for housebound people nominated by statutory welfare sources. The service is used mainly by old age pensioners and particularly by men living alone.

The scope of this service both nationally and locally is very extensive, as can be seen from the annual figures for meals on wheels for 1970. The overall figure for meals delivered by the W.R.V.S. in Hert-

fordshire during the year was 190,051 and of this total, Cheshunt's quota was 8,925.

There is still a great need for additional helpers at the Cheshunt Centre since the number of persons requiring meals is constantly increasing. Further information may be obtained from Mrs. E. M. Brown, Centre Organiser, W.R.V.S. Centre, Albury Grove Road, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 22050).

HEALTH EDUCATION AND HOME SAFETY :

During the early part of the year, a "Return of Unused Medicines Campaign" was mounted in association with the Home Safety Section of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. By the end of the campaign on the 22nd May, some 8,740 tablets and 2,125 c.c. of medicines had been surrendered to local chemists. The medicaments were collected by this Department and destroyed. I am grateful to all the chemists who took part in this campaign.

In early November, a poster campaign pointed out the dangers that may arise from fireworks, stressing the hazards of misuse. I am pleased to record that no local case of injury due to fireworks was reported.

In the Waltham Cross area particularly, the Health Visitors and the E. Herts. County Health Education staff have co-operated in Health Education talks in schools and displays in clinics.

In March, the Council appointed Mr. J. E. Rogers as Safety Officer responsible for all Road and Home Safety matters in the District, and he took up his appointment on the 1st May. He has purchased a number of slides on different subjects and given illustrated talks to interested organisations. In addition, a display unit has been acquired for highlighting any current poster campaign on safety matters.

SECTION III

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The following table shows details of diseases notified during 1969 and 1970 :—

				1969		1970	
				Notified Cases	Notified Cases	Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	23	17	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	111	279	2	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	2	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	—	3	—	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	9	3	2	—
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	...	5	5	2	—
Acute Meningitis	...	...	...	1	1	1	—

MEASLES

Notification of Measles in the last ten years are shown in the following table :—

Year					Cases Notified				Notifications per 1,000 population
1961	...	...	...	...	935	...	...	...	26.35
1962	...	...	...	...	122	...	...	...	3.33
1963	...	...	...	...	836	...	...	...	22.28
1964	...	...	...	...	383	...	...	...	9.81
1965	...	...	...	...	269	...	...	...	6.66
1966	...	...	...	...	375	...	...	...	8.95
1967	...	...	...	...	507	...	...	...	11.8
1968	...	...	...	...	126	...	...	...	2.88
1969	...	...	...	...	111	...	...	...	2.52
1970	...	...	...	...	279	...	...	...	6.32

WHOOPING COUGH

The incidence of this disease over the past ten years is shown in the following table :—

Year						Cases Notified				Notifications per 1,000 population
1961	...	...	...	...		18	...	...	...	0.51
1962	...	...	...	...		9	...	...	...	0.25
1963	...	...	...	...		52	...	...	...	1.39
1964	...	...	...	...		53	...	...	...	1.36
1965	...	...	...	...		3	...	...	...	0.07
1966	...	...	...	...		6	...	...	...	0.14
1967	...	...	...	...		5	...	...	...	0.1
1968	...	...	...	...		10	...	...	...	0.22
1969	...	...	...	...		1	...	...	...	0.02
1970	...	...	...	...		2	...	...	...	0.04

In the years before immunisation was widely performed, an epidemic year might easily produce 100 children out of every 1,000 who had whooping cough before their first birthday.

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis in 1970 was 3 compared with 9 cases in 1969.

New cases, 1970 — classified by age groups :—

Age	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0 — 5	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 15	—	1	—	—	1
15 — 25	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	—	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55	1	—	—	—	1
55 — 65	1	—	—	—	1
65 upwards	—	—	—	—	—
<hr/>					
	2	1	—	—	3
<hr/>					

						1969	1970
Number of cases from other areas transferred to Cheshunt	...	...	...	...	...	2	2

DISINFECTION

No current or terminal disinfection was carried out during the year.

Library books from houses where a notifiable disease has occurred are returned to the Public Health Department for disinfection before re-issue by the Library.

Reported Scabies occurred in 6 families in the area. The records show that 15 children were treated at the Cleansing Station at the London Borough of Enfield.

There is no obligation on general practitioners to report scabies. It is frequently treated by general practitioners. Reported scabies in school children in the country has increased from about 3,500 in 1963 to 14,355 in 1968. Reports from the Royal College of General Practitioners confirm this upward trend.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service, which can be obtained from their family doctors or at Infant Welfare Centres.

Approx. Age	Vaccine
6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES
16 months	SMALLPOX
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
School entry	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus
School entry (one month after other booster)	SMALLPOX re-vaccination
13 years	B.C.G. vaccination against TUBERCULOSIS

This is **not** a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mass X-ray Unit of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board visited Cheshunt each Friday between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m., and was open to all persons over 14 years of age. No appointments were necessary.

The details of the Mass Radiography Unit for the year are given in the following tables. During previous visits of the Unit to Cheshunt the total numbers X-rayed were as follows :—

1953 — 1,682	1965 — 2,749
1956 — 1,010	1968 — 4,782
1959 — 2,711	1969 — 2,936
1962 — 2,463	1970 — 4,154

This is a free service. It is of great value not only in detecting actual diseases in the lungs; but it is also of value in ensuring that disease is absent. For example, student teachers are X-rayed before they come into contact with children.

If disease is found, a report is sent to the patient's general practitioner.

The service is confidential. The actual procedure is speedy (a matter of minutes) and people are not required to undress.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Drill Hall, Cheshunt — 1970.

	Male	Female	Total
Referred by general practitioner ...	384	343	727
General Public	1,191	1,071	2,262
Organised groups	101	1,038	1,139
Residents — Old Peoples' Homes ...	15	11	26
Total number X-rayed	1,691	2,463	4,154

Requiring further investigation ...	43	41	84
-------------------------------------	----	----	----

Pulmonary Tuberculosis:

Requiring occasional clinic supervision	4(1PK)	3	7
Presumed healed, Discharged ...	1(PK)	1	2

Among other abnormalities discovered were:

Primary malignant neoplasm in thorax	4	1	5
Non-malignant tumour	—	1	1

Contd.....	Male	Female	Total
Sarcoidosis	1	2	3
Acquired abnormalities of the heart and vascular system	6	8	14
Bacterial and virus infection of lung	10	4	14
Bronchiectasis	—	1	1
Pulmonary fibrosis (not TB or industrial)	2	1	3
Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus	—	3	3
Other abnormalities	9	8	17
Did not attend for further investigation	2	—	2

PK — previously known.

“DAYS GONE BY”

1910 — In his annual report for this year, Dr. W. F. Clark estimated the population to be 13,710 living in 2,862 houses of which 120 were unoccupied. There were 336 births (24.5 births per thousand population) and 103 deaths (7.5 deaths per thousand population). 14 children under 1 year died giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 41.5 per thousand live births.

He informed the Council that no means of isolating cases of small-pox had been provided and as the prevention of the disease by compulsory vaccination is now practically given up, some form of isolation hospital may be necessary in addition to the Council's hospital for Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases at Dig Dag Hill.

1920 — The population has slightly increased to 13,879, births had decreased to 308 (22.1 births per thousand population) and deaths amounted to 127 (9.2 deaths per thousand population). Of these, 23 were children under 1 year giving an Infantile Death Rate (Sic) of 74.6 per thousand. There were 40 cases of Scarlet Fever, 9 of Diphtheria, 82 of measles and a staggering 48 new cases of tuberculosis.

Four acres of land at Flamstead End for 48 houses, ten acres at Paul's Nursery, Waltham Cross, for 118 houses and five acres at Goffs Oak for 40 houses had been purchased to erect the first Council houses. The arterial road was proposed “which if built would alter the district as to the number, character and position of new houses or buildings to a surprising degree”, states Dr. J. McClymont. We can now note it took 50 years to complete!

I submit the Annual Report on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

The staff remained the same for the year except that Mrs. P. I. Lizzimore resigned on the 20th December to take up an appointment with the London Borough of Enfield after three years of excellent service with the Department.

During the year, some 579 inspections of food premises were carried out and in general a satisfactory standard of hygiene was found. One difficulty frequently encountered however is that a parade of shops has been built with no conception who will occupy them. Certain trades as greengrocers require large storage space whilst others require a large display area and small storage accommodation. Others are let as cafes with no thought given to kitchen arrangements. Such speculative building often results in difficult and costly alterations having to be carried out by the occupier to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960. Whilst provisions exist for other businesses to be first registered or licenced before operating (often of a petty nature), no similar facility is required for any person to sell any food from any premises.

Too often the rear of food premises are not matched by the front of the shop. No effort is spared by the occupier in displaying his goods to the public, but too little attention is paid to the area the public do not see. These food premises may be described as shops with Queen Anne fronts and Mary Anne backs! If only the public were made to enter the shop at the rear and emerge at the front, this would do a considerable amount of good. The district public health inspector can not be everywhere all the time. I should like to see displayed in every food premises a notice stating "Customers may inspect the whole of these premises any time".

Date coding of food is a matter frequently raised and has some advantages. It must, however, be remembered that food may be unfit even if purchased within the time allowed and conversely may be quite sound even after several weeks passed the coding date. So often the methods of transportation and storage are more important.

Improvement grants of both types numbered 46 which was a record. This, together with Application for Qualification Certificates, is beginning to have the desired effect of improving older property which have often been neglected for years. 1971 promises that this impetus will be improved upon.

Over 50% of domestic dwellings are now smoke controlled and if it were not for financial restrictions and the shortage of smokeless fuels, an even greater contribution could have been made. Nevertheless, this is a good achievement, and I am pleased to report that three further areas have been provisionally approved and allowed for in the capital works programme.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the co-operation of all Officers in other Departments and the loyal support of members of this Department.

J. L. BILLINGS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION I

STATISTICS

INSPECTION OF THE AREA :

The inspections made by the public health inspectors during the year numbered 3,823 and details as to the nature of the inspections are given in the tables which follow. 816 complaints relating to a variety of matters were received.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS :

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	547
Number of dwelling houses inspected other than for housing defects	295
Number of premises other than houses inspected	765
Premises re-inspected	325
Visits to works in progress	178
Miscellaneous visits	1,713

Included in the above tables are the following classified visits :—

Infectious Disease	197
Disposal of Refuse	36
Drainage Works	146
Water supplies and Swimming Baths	112
Disinfestations	7
Improvement Grants	62
Standard Improvement Grants	144
Overcrowding	9
Immigrants	14
Smoke Control Areas	113
Slaughterhouse	68
Food Premises	579
Factories	163
Outworkers	33
Smoke Nuisances	125
Atmospheric Pollution Stations	75
Furnaces	14
Smoke Observations	30
Caravans	33
Petroleum Installations	157
Noise Abatement	52

Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Offices, Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	282
Qualification Certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87

HOUSING STATISTICS :

Number of houses erected since 1945 :

By the Cheshunt U.D.C.	...	...	...	...	...	2,665
By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	1,470
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	5,840
						<hr/>
						9,975
						<hr/>

Number of houses erected during 1970 :

By the Cheshunt U.D.C.	...	...	...	...	...	45
By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	—
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	380
						<hr/>
						425
						<hr/>

SERVICE OF NOTICES :

Under Section 277, Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	12
Under Section 170, Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	5
Under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	5
Under Section 85(3), Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	1

SECTION II

FOOD

Food premises in the area classified according to type of business are given below :-

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Grocery and Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Cafes and Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

In the course of the year 579 visits were made to premises where food is prepared; stored or exposed for sale; contraventions were found resulting in 33 letters containing a wide variety of items requiring works to comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 is as follows :-

Premises	No.
Ice Cream Premises	74
Food Preparing Premises	22

UNSOLD FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

	Tons	Cwt.	lbs.
Meat at Slaughterhouse			61
Meat at Retail Shops	...	2	

(Contd.)

					Tons	Cwt.	lbs.
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...			48
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	1	16	93
Total					1	19	111.

Included in the above total was a consignment of foreign tinned tomatoes. Due to a faulty canning technique the tins were literally exploding as the packing cases were opened. Some 28 cwts were condemned. Over 5 cwt of biscuits were rejected as being unfit when they were found to be contaminated by metal and rubber particles from the machinery. 126 lbs of wet fish and 56 lbs of poultry were found to be unfit due to decomposition. It must, however, be stressed that this is a very small proportion of the total food consumed within the Urban District.

IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS

As a result of the modernisation of the handling of cargoes at docks, considerable quantities of food which was formally inspected by public health inspectors at the port now arrive in this area in large sealed containers. Such containers may hold several tons of food which have to be inspected immediately at the time of opening. These containers may arrive at any time of day and can place a heavy burden on the staff as this process is time consuming. 46 containers were dealt with during the year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is only one slaughterhouse in the area which is licenced until 30th September, 1971. These premises are regularly inspected by the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture.

During the year a 100% meat inspection service was maintained. The details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned are shown in the following tables :-

			Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lamb	Pigs
Number Killed	...	...	169	—	—	332	294
Number Inspected	...		169	—	—	332	294

All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci

			Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lamb	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned ...	...		—	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	...		3	—	—	6	9
Tuberculosis only ...			—	—	—	—	—
Cysticerci ...	...		—	—	—	—	—

The total charges for the year amounted to £40. 9. 0d.

LICENSING OF SLAUGHTERMEN

Three slaughtermen's licences to slaughter animals in a slaughter-house by the captive bolt method were renewed for the year.

MILK LICENCES

Two applications were received for the licencing of premises to sell designated milk during the year bringing the total to 56. All existing licences expire on the 31st December, 1970.

BRUCELLA ABORTUS — TUBERCLE BACILLI

The sampling of milk for the presence of the above two organisms is undertaken by the County Public Health Inspector. Two notifications were received during the year of Brucella abortus in milk at two farms in Cheshunt. Visits were made to the farms in question and advice given on the precautions which should be taken.

DRIED EGG ALBUMEN — HEAT TREATMENT

The heat treatment plant at Walcross Poultry Farm was not used during the year for the pasteurisation of dried egg albumen. The process was originally intended for crystal and flake albumen to be heated for six days after a temperature of 130 F. has been reached in the centre of each container. This works reasonably well, but it has been found, in previous years that powdered albumen because of the dense nature and the dryness of the product, difficulty is often found in killing off Salmonella organisms.

Sometimes even with complete re-pasteurisation success is not always achieved. The product on such occasions can only be released for non-human consumption purposes.

FOOD COMPLAINTS AND FOOD SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST

One hundred and four samples were submitted to the public analyst of which ninety seven were routine samples of a wide variety of food (including milk) and drugs. All samples were found to be genuine except one sample of soft drink, which was found to contain 1,200 parts per million of Cyclamic Acid in contravention of the Soft Drinks (Amendment) Regulation 1969. Legal proceedings were instituted in this case but were eventually withdrawn.

Of the remaining seven samples submitted as a result of complaints, four were found to be unsatisfactory.

There was a total of 35 informal complaints made by members of the public concerning food sold in the district of which 8 were bread and 4 were milk. In all cases the matter was investigated at the retailers and through to the manufacturers. Each complaint was finally resolved satisfactorily.

Eight formal food complaints reported to the Public Health Committee resulted in three instances to no further action, one a warning letter sent to the manufacturers and four i.e. legal proceedings, three of which had been resolved by the end of the year.

Details of the eight formal complaints are as follows:-

Sample No.	Commodity	Complaint	Result
814	Cake	Glass	Legal Proceedings
815	Cake	Unfit	No Action
826	Crisps	Brass Bolt Washer	Warning Letter
827	Swiss Roll	Rancid	No Action
853	Steak	Fly Eggs	No Action
854	Bread	Metal	Legal Proceedings
855	Bread	Moth	Legal Proceedings
864	Cream Bun	Moth	Legal Proceedings

PROSECUTIONS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955</p> | <p>4 — One case authorised in 1969 but not finalised until 1970. One case authorised in 1970 but not resolved before the end of the year.</p> |
|---|---|

2. Total amount of fines and costs
imposed £160.60

The ninety six samples reported by the Analyst as being genuine were :-

Milk (Pasteurised) (9)	Swiss Roll
Milk (Homogenised)	Beef Sausage
Milk (Sterilised)	Crab Spread
Milk (Channel Islands) (2)	Butter
Milk (UHT) (2)	Top of the Milk
Mixed Vegetables	Junior Beef Dinner
Instant Coffee	Tomato Flavoured Soup
Milk Shake Syrup	Stuffed Pork Roll
Spaghetti Twist and Meat Balls	Instant Coffee Mate
Pork/Ham Sausage	Beef Sausage Meat (2)
Gin	Lemon Flavouring
Rum	Self Raising Flour
Steak and Kidney Pudding	Faggots
Ground Ginger (2)	Baking Powder
Steak and Vegetables	Beef Suet
Hedex	Tomato Ketchup
Bronchial Mixture	Raspberry Jam
Artificial Sweetner	Beef Pie
Frankfurters	Chicken Roll
Beef Pie	Table Jelly
Savoury Beef Pie	Ham and Chicken Roll
Cheddar Cheese Spread (2)	Creamed Rice Pudding
Potted Salmon with Butter	Pork Pie
Malt Vinegar	Cough Syrup
Margarine (2)	Asprin
Apricot Jam (2)	Chicken Paste
Swiss Cheese	Sauce (2)
Pineapple Flavoured Jelly	Peanut Butter
Sausage Roll	Quick Jel
Baked Beans	Almond Marzipan
Salad Cream (3)	Crystallised Violet Petals
Black Currant Drink	Tinned Strawberries
Mashed Potatoes	Lemon Curd

Strawberries in Syrup
Fish Cake
Worcestershire Sauce
Tomato Spread
Bubble Gum
Fruit Salad

Peardrax
Chunky Beef Curry
Skinless Beef Sausage
Curry/Rice Chicken
Chicken in Sauce
Hundred and Thousands

The number opposite the samples represents the total number of samples taken of this item. Where no number appears only one sample was taken

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

The total number of samples taken for bacteriological analysis during 1970 was 127.

Ice Cream :

				Mobile				Premises			
Grade				1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Soft	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	28	8	—	1

Milk

Twenty five milk samples submitted were all reported as satisfactory.

Other Foods :

Food	Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Ham	5	5	—
Sausage	5	5	—
Pork Luncheon Meat	2	2	—
Pork Roll	3	3	—
Salami Sausage	2	2	—
Pork Pie	1	1	—
Chicken	3	3	—
Pressed Meat	1	1	—
Cream Gateau	1	1	—
Roast Beef	2	2	—

(Contd.)

Food	Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Roast Pork	6	6	—
Cream Doughnut	6	3	3
Prawns	1	1	—
Chopped Ham/Pork	2	1	1
Corned Beef Slices	4	2	2
Fresh Cream	3	2	1
Cornish Pasties	2	2	—
Custard Pie	1	1	—
Minced Beef	5	2	3
Brawn	2	2	—
Yogurt	2	1	1
Fish Cake	1	1	—
Total	60	49	11

It will be noted that in the majority of the unsatisfactory samples some form of handling or use of equipment would appear to be the infecting agent. This is further borne out that in all cases Staphylococci were isolated.

These results were backed up by frequent "agar sausage" samples taken from food, assistants hands and equipment used within the shop. These samples were incubated at 37 C. for 24 — 48 hours in the Department. Such evidence can then be demonstratively proved to the offending person that bacteria which may be pathogenic have been isolated.

In all such cases suitable advice is given by the district inspector to the manager on how to improve food hygiene and shop cleanliness.

HOUSING

UNFIT HOUSES :

One demolition order was made during the year on Pear Tree Cottage, Appleby Street, but the premises had not been demolished by the end of the year. 'Headingly', Hammond Street Road was demolished as a result of an order made the previous year. The total number of houses demolished or closed since 1953 is 198.

Houses made fit by owners as a result of informal notices were as follows:-

1. As a result of complaint or inspection	33
2. As a result of inspection for Qualification Certificates	87

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Since 1949 some 220 houses have been improved with the aid of "Discretionary Grants", In 1970 twelve applications were approved as follows:-

Premises	Amount of Grant
6 War Memorial Alm Houses	£4,737.10. 0.
Oak Tree Cottage, Silver Street	£270.10. 0.
113 Trinity Lane	£332.15. 0.
32 Eleanor Road	£533. 4. 0.
55 Albury Grove Road	£822. 2. 0.
57 Albury Grove Road	£882. 4. 6.
51 Prospect Road	£601. 8. 6.

STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS:-

One hundred and forty two Standard Grants have been approved since 1959. Thirty four applications were approved during 1970 as follows:-

Premises	Maximum Grant
7 Queens Road	£20
70 Windmill Lane	£65
20 Lodge Crescent	£95

Premises	Maximum Grant
79 Cadmore Lane	£450
142 Hammond Street Road	£450
30 Prospect Road	£405
2 Regimental Cottages, Appleby Street	£450
62 Dewhurst Road	£405
429 Great Cambridge Road	£95
17 Cadmore Lane	£405
73 Cromwell Avenue	£185
14 Burleigh Road	£450
2 Park Road	£405
28 Prospect Road	£450
186 Longfield Lane	£30
35 Dewhurst Road	£120
30 Cromwell Avenue	£95
65 Cromwell Avenue	£405
122 Cromwell Avenue	£450
16 Forest Road	£95
176 Windmill Lane	£75
1 Cromwell Road	£155
206 Windmill Lane	£356
94 Cromwell Avenue	£75
2 Turners Hill	£50
29 Albury Grove Road	£260
21 Cadmore Lane	£435
38 Cadmore Lane	£385
34 Endeavour Road	£282
36 Endeavour Road	£289
146 Hammond Street Road	£450
27 Park Lane, Waltham Cross	£450
13 Swanfield Road	£435
93 Swanfield Road	£185

Four of the above properties were subject to a joint application for a Combined Grant and Qualification Certificate.

QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

If an owner of a house, which had a rateable value of £40 or under

on the 7th November, 1956, is let to a controlled tenant and has the five basic standard amenities, the owner may apply to the local authority for a Qualification Certificate. If the house lacks one or more of the standard amenities the owner may apply for a Combined Certificate. When the certificate has been approved the owner may apply to the Rent Officer for a "fair rent" to be determined under the Rent Act 1968. When this has been agreed the controlled tenancy is converted to a regulated one.

Eighty seven applications were received during the year. Forty certificates were approved, forty two were still pending and five were refused

In all cases some defects of repair were found and it was a condition that these items were carried out prior to the issue of the certificate. Where objections were received from the tenant they were taken into consideration.

CERTIFICATE OF DISREPAIR

One application was received from a landlord for the revocation of a Certificate of Disrepair issued by the Council in 1964. The required repairs were eventually completed and the certificate revoked.

OVERCROWDING

After a complaint had been received alleging overcrowding, an inspection revealed that the permitted number had been exceeded by 1½ units. The matter was brought to the attention of the owner/occupier concerned who took no remedial action. The information was placed before the Council who decided to institute legal proceedings. The Court found the case proved and fined the defendant £5 plus a daily penalty of £2 per day and £15.15.0d costs. The overcrowding was eventually abated after an interview with a representative of the Italian Consulate.

Inspections were made at 150 Cromwell Avenue and 'Roundcroft', Park Lane, Cheshunt which are houses in multiple occupation and other properties but no further overcrowding was found.

CARAVANS

At the end of the year there were ten individual site licences and three licences issued for more than three vans per site. The total caravans in the area was 143.

Gypsies and other travellers again presented a problem by camping on private land or roadside waste. Most of these travellers appear to make their living by collecting scrap metal or rags, much of which they leave behind. The National Policy of providing proper sites for these people must be speeded up. Their numbers are increasing; the average family is 4.5.

Together with the Irish tinkers the problem will only become more acute as time passes. Hertfordshire County Council have provided several sites but some counties have done nothing to resolve the problem. Any new Gypsy Encampment provided in this area should not be situated in an isolated position. Such a site only has the effect of making the inhabitants feel unwanted and "untouchable". There is the problem of waste disposal and other services; difficulty in shopping and attending school.

As the majority are engaged in dealing in scrap metal a site nearer the disposal centre would be more suitable.

The Camping Club of Great Britain and Ireland continue to operate a site for tents and caravans at Theobalds Park. Adequate facilities are provided.

Members of the Showmen's Guild utilised an area of land at Turnford during the year. Some 30 caravans left the site in March and returned in October. Suitable facilities are provided and the occupants run the site in an orderly manner.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses within the area.

SECTION IV

CLEAN AIR

In the course of the year 37 complaints were received from residents complaining of smoke, fumes or grit and dust nuisance. Not all of these could be substantiated being of an isolated nature. Where evidence was available the attention of the person responsible was drawn to the provision of the Clean Air Acts, 1956/68. On one occasion large quantities of used tyres were being burned in association with site clearance for a new road. According to the site contractor this was his usual practice. This contravention was brought to the notice of the County Surveyor with a recommendation that the provisions of Section 1 of the Clean Air Act, 1968, should be incorporated in any future contracts. The majority of the other complaints were of the bonfire type in residential areas.

INDUSTRIAL

Four applications were received under Section 6 of the 1968 Act relating to chimney heights. In three cases the chimney was required to be heightened in accordance with the Minister's memorandum.

Intermittent complaints were received from occupants of a factory site in Waltham Cross of dust and metallic particles damaging the paint work of motor cars. The trouble was traced and found to be due to the blocking of the lateral trunking system, feeding cyclones of the fragmentiser plant of a local firm. This reduced the efficiency of the cyclones and the excess dust was expelled via the chimney. Correspondence with the firm and the German installers alleviated the problem somewhat but it was not finally resolved during the year.

The improvement in boiler construction, the control of their installation, together with better chimney design, higher efflux velocities and discharge have now resulted in greatly improving efficiency, making the smoking factory chimney a thing of the past. This in conjunction with a programme of Smoke Control Areas has not only greatly improved the quality of the air we breathe but has resulted in more sunlight, especially in winter months, improved vegetation, encouraged the return of various forms of bird life to the centre of towns, less grime deposited on buildings and less corrosion of their structure. It is now possible from the tower of Theobalds Park to see beyond the centre of London, very likely for the first time ever!

DOMESTIC

In February the Council made the No. 6 Smoke Control Order which after a delay was confirmed by the Minister in November, to come into operation on the 1st October, 1971. This Order extends the Smoke Control Areas to our boundary with Hoddesdon, and will bring the total area subject to smoke control to 1181 acres and the number of houses to 7,462 or approximately 52%.

The following table shows details of the Smoke Control Areas :-

Area No.	Acres	Made	Order Confirmed	Operation	Total	Houses — Estimated No. on which	
						Requiring Adaptation	Grant paid
1	140	20.12.60	21. 4.61	1.11.61	1562	178	116
2	280	19.12.61	20. 3.62	1.10.62	911	388	187
3	250	18.12.62	28. 3.63	1.10.63	1839	576	330
4	123	17. 4.64	18. 8.64	1. 7.65	1048	680	484
5	182	2. 7.68	13. 9.68	1. 7.69	1570	670	237
6	206	10. 2.70	11.11.70	1.10.71	532	90	

Provision has been made in the capital programme for three further areas. This would complete the whole of the district to east of the Great Cambridge Road.

NATIONAL SURVEY OF AIR POLLUTION

The Council continued during the year to take part in this National Survey to record the amounts of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the air at Waltham Cross, the Council Depot and Goff's Oak. The results are submitted to Warren Springs Laboratory who issue Statistical Summaries of all local authorities taking part in the Survey.

The figures for Cheshunt are shown in the following tables

AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE

Situation	Smoke concentrations, microgrammes / cubic metre								
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Waltham Cross	55	84	76	64	49	47	43	36	48
Cheshunt	47	52	45	40	29	34	34	33	31
Goff's Oak	32	39	45	26	23	11	27	27	25
Average	44	58	55	43	34	31	35	32	35

AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE

Situation	Sulphur dioxide concentrations, microgrammes / cubic metre								
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Waltham Cross	120	127	117	110	113	113	117	96	88
Cheshunt	108	112	96	101	91	101	92	101	103
Goff's Oak	43	106	104	73	96	54	44	37	41
Average	90	115	106	95	100	89	84	78	77

These figures are very encouraging, especially when the population and general development had increased by some 25% over the last ten years.

NOISE ABATEMENT

This topic has been included under Clean Air as there is no doubt that general noise is on the increase and may be regarded as a major source of air pollution.

Seventeen complaints were received during the year of which seven could be substantiated as some nuisance to the complainant but not a nuisance when judged against the Method of Rating Industrial Noise affecting Mixed Residential and Industrial Areas B.S. 4142.

Noise in the late evening and night usually from factories situated near residential development are the main problems.

Owner occupiers often state they paid £7,000 for their house and pay £100 per annum in rates, live in a residential area and should expect reasonable quite conditions. Forgetting of course that the factory next door very likely cost at least £100,000 with rates of £2,500 per year and situated in an industrial area. Land is scarce and extremely valuable but these conflicts must be resolved at the planning stage, or would be purchasers of houses adjoining factory sites must be more selective.

Nevertheless, improvements were made in each case by the factory owner to reduce the level of noise by keeping windows closed, by installing new machinery or by sound insulation.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Almost all premises where persons are employed are controlled either by the Factories Acts; Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act or the Agricultural Act.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	133	163	6	—
(iii) Other premises under the Act, excluding out-workers' premises ...	5	6	—	—
Total	138	169	6	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found				No. of cases which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
Unsuitable or defective	6	5	—	1	—
Other Offences including offences under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6	—	—	—	—	—
Total	6	5	—	1	—

OUTWORKERS

There are 12 outworkers of registered processes, 11 of which are engaged in the making of wearing apparel and one in carding buttons.

OFFICES AND SHOPS

Section 60 (1) of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 required the local authority to submit an Annual Report to the Department of Employment on their work under the Act for the twelve month period ending on 31st December each year.

1. Registration and Inspection

The period under review showed a net decrease of 21 registered premises, leaving a total of 357 registered premises. The number of new registrations received totalled 28; while the number of deletions from the register was 49. The number of persons employed on registered premises also showed a corresponding decrease of 96 persons, the total employed being 3556. This number is comprised of 2138 female employees and 1418 male employees.

The decrease in the number of registered premises is, in the main attributable to the demolition of premises in the Stage III of the Comprehensive Redevelopment Area, High Street, Waltham Cross.

"General Inspections" made during the year totalled 172; 51 were inspections of offices; 94 retail shops; 8 warehouses and 19 catering establishments.

All "general inspections", as in previous years, are made by way of surprise visits; a "general inspection" being an inspection made to ascertain whether the premises are in compliance with all the relevant provisions of the Act, regulations or Orders made thereunder.

II. Operation of the General Provisions of the Act

The visits and inspections made, although resulting in the service of 19 preliminary notices, nevertheless revealed a very high proportion of registered premises to be in compliance with the various requirements of the Act, which is to be expected now that the Act and orders have been in operation for at least 5 years. Compliance with the notices issued had, in the majority of cases been achieved by the end of the review period.

By far the greatest number of contraventions were in respect of the absence of thermometers and abstracts, or the provision or replenishment of first aid equipment. In two instances it was found necessary to issue notices requiring the provision of additional sanitary conveniences and washing facilities.

It is anticipated that the general improvement observed during the last twelve months will not only be maintained but improved still further.

III. Accidents

There were 8 accidents occurring in retail shops, 8 in warehouses and only two in offices, making a total of 18 reported during the period. Several other notifications continue to be received concerning accidents which either do not occur on registered premises or where the injured employee is not absent from his employment for more than three days.

All notifiable accidents were investigated, but in only 2 cases was it felt necessary to issue written advice on additional safety precautions to be undertaken by the employer. Most accidents reported were found to be due to human error or by not following elementary safety precautions.

The attention of occupiers of registered premises was drawn to the procedure to be adopted in the event of an accident, during each inspection or visit made to the premises.

IV. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises (Hoists and Lifts) Regulations 1968.

The Regulations which came into operation in May, 1969 impose requirements as to the construction, maintenance and examination of lifts in registered premises. Responsibility for compliance with these requirements is in most cases with the occupier except in buildings to which Sections 42, 43 and 44 apply, when the owner is the responsible person.

Experience of these Regulations, since their introduction has in this District been that all lifts liable to inspection have been inspected at six monthly intervals as required; and that the specified inspection report has been available for examination by the inspectorate when requested.

In only two instances were defects found on examination by a competent person (in both of these it was by an insurance company surveyor) and a copy of the inspection report was duly received. In one case the necessary repair works have been completed; and in the other, received only at the end of the review period, discussions were in progress concerning the most satisfactory method of rectifying the defects.

Registration and General Inspections :

					Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	...	...	...	...	12	118	51
Retail shops	...	...	...		15	202	94
Wholesale shops, warehouses					—	17	8

(Contd.)

	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	20	19
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—

Number of Visits :

Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises — 282.

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	1,663
Retail shops... ..	1,365
Wholesale departments, warehouse	408
Catering establishments open to the public ...	95
Canteens	25
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	3,556
Total Males:	1,418
Total Females:	2,138

Exemptions: Nil

Prosecutions: Nil

Inspectors :

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act 4

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act Nil

AGRICULTURAL PREMISES

The Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956 gives a local authority power to require the owners of agricultural units within their area to provide suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences to be available for the use of workers they employ.

A survey carried out during the year which included nurseries revealed that there were 94 such units employing 573 males and 318 females. In only four premises were works required.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

The Home Counties (Music and Dancing) Licensing Act, 1956 and the Hertfordshire (Music and Dancing) Regulations, 1955 are administered by the County Council. Under Regulation 5 a certificate from the local Council is required relating to sanitary accommodation and other facilities for new applications. One such application was received during the year and approved, subject to a maximum of 200 persons being allowed to use the premises at any one time.

A revised and improved standard has now been adopted based on the "Technical Regulations for Places of Public Entertainment in Greater London 1965".

The total now licenced is 15.

SECTION VI

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the district is within the area of supply of the Metropolitan Water Board. The Director of Water Examination has kindly supplied the following information relating to the supply for this area.

"1. (a) The supply was satisfactory both as to (i) quality, and (ii) quantity throughout 1970.

- (b) All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine; after a predetermined period of contact the pipes are flushed out and refilled; samples of water are then collected from these treated mains; and the mains are returned to service only after the analytical results are found to be satisfactory.

The quality control from these laboratories is carried out by means of daily sampling from sources of supply from the treatment works or well stations, from the distribution system, and through to the consumer. Any sign of contamination or any other abnormality is immediately investigated.

- (c) (i) The Board has no record of the number of structurally separate dwellings supplied in your area, but the population supplied direct according to the Registrar-General's estimates at 30th June, 1970, was 44,096.

(ii) No houses were permanently supplied by standpipe.

- (d) No artificial flouride is being added, and where the flouride content is indicated in the analyses it represents the naturally occurring flouride in the water.

2. (a) The supply was derived from the following works and pumping stations:-

Mainly River Thames — derived water and well water from Hoe Lane and Waltham Abbey pumping stations. The higher ground round Goff's Oak also receives well water from Darnicle Hill pumping station.

No new sources of supply were instituted and there were no changes to the general scheme of supply in your area.

The number of samples collected and the bacteriological and chemical analyses of the supply from the above sources after treatment are shown on the attached sheets.

- (b) On account of their hardness content and alkaline reaction the Board's river and well water supplies are shown to be not plumbo-solvent. It should, however, be appreciated that all types of water pick up varying amounts of metal from the material of water piping particularly when it is newly installed; this applies to copper, zinc, iron and also to lead.

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD —

AVERAGE RESULTS OF THE CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF

MILLIGRAMMES PER LITRE

Description of the Sample	Number of Samples Day of the Month	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Albuminoid Nitrogen	Nitrate Nitrogen	Oxygen abs from KMnO4 4 hrs at 27°C	8.O.D. 5 days at 20°C	Hardness (total) CaCO3	Hardness (Non carbonate) CaCO3	Magnesium as Mg	Sodium Potassium as Na K	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
R. Thames — derived	363	0.026	0.083	4.8	1.02		274	79	5	27.7	5.6
Darnicle Hill	2	0.006	0.009	0.7	0.18		370	125			
Hoe Lane	4	0.100	0.026	—	0.29		398	154			
Waltham Abbey	4	0.20	0.034	0.5	0.38		276	59			

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS—

WATER SUPPLIED TO THE URBAN

BEFORE TREATMENT

Source of supply	Number of Samples	Agar plate count per ml		Coliform count	
		20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml	Count per 100 ml
R. Thames — derived	8,259	31.9		37.91	17.3
Darnicle Hill	51	0.2	32	88.24	0.5
Hoe Lane	246	0.1	17	98.37	0.1
Waltham Abbey	247	0.0	30	99.60	—

WATER EXAMINATION DEPARTMENT

THE WATER SUPPLIED TO THE URBAN DISTRICT OF CHESHUNT

(unless otherwise stated)

Chloride as Cl	Phos- phate as PO4	Silicate as SiO2	Sulphate as SO4	Natural Flouride as F	Surface active material as Manoxal OT	Tur- bidity units	Colour (Burgess units)	pH value	Electrical Conductivity (micromhos)	
(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)
40	2.7	9	70	0.20	0.03		0.1	11	7.9	570
28				0.65			1.3	3	7.3	630
38				0.55			0.5	8	7.2	700
23				0.70			0.3	4	7.4	540

YEARLY AVERAGES, 1970

DISTRICT OF CHESHUNT

			AFTER TREATMENT			
Escherichia coli count		Number of samples	Agar Plate count per ml		Coliform count	E. coli count
Per cent samples negative in 100 ml	Count per 100 ml		20-24 hours at 37°C	3 days at 22°C	Per cent samples negative in 100 ml	Per cent samples negative in 100 ml
53.58	4.7	3,710	8.0		99.92	99.97
90.20	0.1	60	0.1	1	100.0	100.0
100.0	—	254	0.3	7	100.0	100.0
100.0	—	253	0.2	38	100.0	100.0

All schools in the area are supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board, but in the majority of cases the water supplied at taps in the cloakroom or via drinking fountains is fed from the storage tank and not from the rising main. This is not good practice. Correspondence between the Ministry, the Herts. County Council and this Department failed to achieve a solution to the question, and no assurance was forthcoming that future policy would be altered. When the County Council expenditure on Education is over £44,000,000 per annum the provision of cool, clear aerated pure water is surely not too much to expect. Whilst 22 samples from 14 schools failed to reveal any bacteriological impurity, the water in the summer must be luke warm and flat to drink.

All the premises in the area are supplied by mains water with the exception of:-

Aquaduct Lock House
Aquaduct Lock Cottage
Cheshunt Lock House
New River Cottage
Theobalds Park
Theobalds Cottage
Theobalds Riding School
Theobalds Camping Site
South Villa Nursery Cottage

During the year 71 samples were taken for bacteriological examinations and all were found to be satisfactory.

Nursery Cottage, Canada Lane formerly on water from the New River was supplied with mains water.

SWIMMING BATHS

The water from the Swimming Pool owned by the Council was sampled on 16 occasions. On three reports the plate count was positive but no coliform or E. coli organisms were present. The water of the paddling pool was sampled 9 times and only in one case was the plate count positive.

Swimming Baths of schools in the area are sampled regularly by the Public Health staff of the County Council.

SECTION VII

INFESTATION

RODENT CONTROL

Over the past ten years the number of complaints of mice infestation has gone up considerably, whilst the complaints of rats increased to 1966 and has now declined. This was the first year when mice complaints exceeded rat complaints.

There is no particular answer to this, except that many old properties have been demolished and I suspect that these occupiers were prepared to tolerate mice but not rats. The modern house is now much better heated which gives favourable conditions for mice to breed and the conglomeration of old garden sheds which were ideal shelter for rats have been reduced.

One major source of concern is the infestation of mice which appear from time to time at supermarkets. The conditions are ideal, adequate food, shelter and temperature. Traditional methods of Warfarin treatment is not successful and alpha chloralose is only effective at certain times. Zinc oxide used with care and trapping have had to be resorted to.

Details of the rodent control work are :-

Property other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in district	17,099	299
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	724	—
(b) Number infested by :		
(i) Rats	127	—
(ii) Mice	147	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	12	—
(b) Number infested by :		
(i) Rats	—	—
(ii) Mice	2	—

A treatment of the Council's soil sewers was carried out in October when 100 manholes were treated with flouroacetamide. Very little infestation was found.

The treatment for rodent control work in private dwellings is free of charge, but a charge of 70p per hour is made in respect of commercial and industrial premises.

OTHER INFESTATIONS

During the year the advice of the Department was sought in dealing with the following pests :

Ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Bees	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Carpet Beetles		...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Moles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Silverfish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

A charge of 50p per treatment is made, except in the case of fleas and bugs which are dealt with free of charge.

SECTION VIII

PETROLEUM

In April all occupiers of premises storing petroleum spirit were given a year in which to bring their electrical installation up to the required standard. For this purpose a blank electrical test certificate was forwarded for completion by a competent electrician; that is a person who is himself or whose employer is an approved contractor on the Roll of the National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting, a member of the Electrical Contractors Association or a Chartered Electrical Engineer.

Similarly, an Inventory Check Certificate will be required from occupiers who have tanks which have been in use for 20 years or more.

A number of new applications was received together with alterations to existing premises. One site was licenced to operate as an attended self service station. No difficulties have so far been encountered with this type of installation, but extra conditions relating to safety were attached to the conditions of the licence.

57 premises were licenced by the Council for the storage of petroleum spirit which amounted to 197,474 gallons and fees received in respect of these licences was £241.

SECTION IX

MISCELLANEOUS

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Licences to keep pet shops were granted during the year to Mr. Boswell, 14 Cadmore Lane, and Mr. G. Gidley, 19 High Street, Waltham Cross, and the conditions recommended by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals were incorporated in the licence.

By the end of the year the licence issued to Mr. Gidley had been withdrawn as he had ceased trading from the premises.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

This Act provides that no person shall keep a Boarding Establishment for animals except under a licence granted by a local authority.

Licences to keep such Boarding Establishments were issued to :-

Mrs. J. Bradley, Upwey Kennels, Hammond Street Road.

Mr. K. Cox, High View Farm, Crouch Lane

Mrs. P. Meredith, Tyle Kiln Cottage, Theobalds.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

Licences to keep a riding Establishment are only granted after a satisfactory report from an appointed veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner on the condition of the premises and the horses associated with it.

Licences were issued to Mrs. W. Hodges and Miss P. Henderson, Theobalds Riding School, and Mrs. A. M. and Miss R. M. Taylor, Woodgreen Farm, Silver Street.

The Riding Establishments Act, 1970, amends the 1964 Act and introduces further control and conditions but does not become operative until 1st January, 1971.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

The total number of Scrap Metal dealers on the register at the end of the year was 16 of which 9 were itinerant collectors.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Engineer and Surveyor reports "Cheshunt's sewers discharge

into the Greater London Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Edmonton. Cheshunt is adequately provided with sewerage apart from some country areas where properties are drained to septic tanks or cesspools. The new branch trunk sewer to serve the proposed development by the Greater London Council at Flamstead End is now completed."

CESSPOOL DRAINAGE

The emptying of domestic cesspools by the local authority is free of charge up to a limit of 22,000 gallons per annum. Charges for amounts in excess of that quantity and the emptying of non-domestic cesspools are based on the actual cost of the work.

There are 138 cesspools which are attended by the Cleansing Department during the year totalling 485 emptyings.

REFUSE DUMPS

Dumping of refuse is controlled by consents granted by the Herts. County Council and the District Council under the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935. Conditions are attached to the consents, which are designed to prevent nuisance and control fires. No new consents were granted during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection and disposal service is under the control of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

The Council undertake a weekly collection of house refuse in all parts of the Urban District, and the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in gravel pits at Hoddeston. The collection of trade refuse is also undertaken.

A disposal centre to meet the requirements of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, is provided in Turners Hill. Rubbish may be taken to the disposal centre in the Manor House Depot, Turners Hill on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., and on Sundays from 9.00 a.m. to noon.

Unwanted Motor Vehicles may still be taken to Cheshunt Council Depot (rear of Public Library, Turners Hill) between 7.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.

A 'Lindemann-Newell' fragmentiser is operated by Messrs. W. C. Jones & Co., Waltham Cross, and is stated to be able to deal with about 150,000 vehicles a year, or about 75,000 tons of light scrap metal. Details of the arrangements under which unwanted motor vehicles will be accepted should be obtained direct from the Company.

SHOPS ACTS

In April of this year a tin of garden peas was purchased from a greengrocer and a packet of Alka Seltzer from a Newsagent, both on a Sunday morning. In both cases the Council instituted legal proceedings. In the first case the magistrate found proved and the defendant was conditionally discharged for twelve months and ordered to pay £2 costs and the second was dismissed.

SAND PITS

Sand in sand pits does if not treated at frequent intervals become contaminated with various bacteria which could give rise to gastroenteric infections.

Twelve samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis during the year and some very high counts were recorded. In all cases advice was forwarded to the head teacher on the precautionary methods to be adopted. With regard to sand pits situated in Council Parks the Engineer and Surveyor has instructed that the treatment should be carried out weekly as a routine measure.

Premises	Probable No. per 100 ml.	
	Coliform	B. Coli (Type 1)
Andrews Lane School	Nil	Nil
Andrews Lane School	175	50
Blindmans Lane Nursery	1,800	1,800
Brooklands Infants School	550	170
Brooklands Infants School	350	350
Downfield Infants School	175	120
Hurst Drive Infants School	250	130
Hurst Drive Infants School	1,800	13
St. Joseph's R.C. School	13	Nil
Turnford C. of E. School	1,800	25

